



**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District**

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Public Affairs

Corps Facts

Lt. Col. Thomas E. O'Hara

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Lt. Col. Thomas E. O'Hara, Jr., assumed the duties of the St. Paul District deputy district engineer on July 23, 2001, after serving as Battalion executive officer, 27th Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Airborne), Ft. Bragg, N.C.

O'Hara was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers in June 1985 out of St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn. After graduating from the Engineer Basic Course in 1987, O'Hara served in a wide variety of field assignments. He served as platoon leader and company executive officer in the 11th Engineer Battalion (Combat)(Heavy). O'Hara was then selected to serve as a joint staff intern in the Capabilities Analysis Division, J8, for one year. After Engineer Officer Advanced Course, O'Hara served as the assistant brigade engineer for 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division during Operations Desert Shield/Storm in Southwest Asia. He then was assigned to the 23rd Engineer Battalion, 1st Armor Division in Friedberg, Germany, where he served as company commander, battalion adjutant and assistant S3. O'Hara was then assigned to the United States Military Academy, where he taught systems engineering and engineering management and served in the Operations Research Center. He was assigned to XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C., from June 1998 to July 2001. In addition to serving as the 27th Engineer Battalion executive officer, he also served as the XVIII Airborne Corps engineer plans officer, engineer operations officer and as the deputy joint engineer, Joint Task Force Bravo, Honduras.

During his time at the St. Paul District, O'Hara deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, from April to November 2002. Initially, he served on the engineering staff for the Combined Joint Task Force 180. His next position in Afghanistan was as deputy district engineering for CJ7.

O'Hara's military education includes Engineer Officer Basic Course, Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms Services Staff School, U.S. Army Command and General Staff School and Jumpmaster School. He has a master's degrees in mathematics and operations research from Penn State University and currently holds the academic rank of assistant professor.

O'Hara's military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two leaf clusters, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medals, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Joint Staff Identification Badge and the bronze deFluery medal.